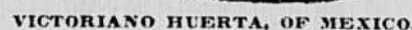


BURNS VESTMENTS AND PRAYER BOOK IN REPIUDIATION

At Gate of Monticello, Minister Takes Leave of Church

FOREVER DONE
WITH ITS SERVICE

Denounces Episcopal Church as
Relic of Feudalism, Dry-Rotted
in Conservatism and Stupid
in Intellect, Seeking Physi-
cal Cleanliness While Re-



[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Charlottesville, Va., July 26.—The Rev. Charles Steele Davidson called at a local newspaper office yesterday afternoon and announced that he had severed his connection with the Episcopal Church, and that in token of this act he had burned, at the gate to Monticello, the home of Jefferson, his vestments and prayer book.

Mr. Davidson declared bitterly against the Episcopal Church. "The charge," so runs a part of his written statement, that "the Episcopal Church is the gentlemen's church in general and in Virginia in particular, is powerful financially and socially dead; that it needs a change of heart, repentance, or utter obliteration. She has no vital interest in the poor and the common. She either segregates

the poor in missions on the back streets, or relegates them in churches to the back pews.

Relief of Feudalism.

"In Virginia the Episcopal Church is a mere relic of the old social feudalism and stands for a dry-rotted conservatism that bars the progress of the kingdom. Virginia, after her long depression, is aroused and is marching on, but the breach she is making is

on, but the church is slowly retreating to the citadel of tradition and materialism. It is taking up the matter of physical uncleanness and is leaving vile the inner man. It is wasting time on eugenics and putting no time on eupsychies. It is contending with the rituals about purity of worship when it has lost the spirit of worship.

"The Episcopal Church everywhere is shot through with materialism. Its overtures in the matter of unity are

insidious and hypocritical. Behind closed doors it claims superiority to all Protestantism and contemplates only an Episcopal merger. The leaders are misleading. The church is not divine on the side of its human in-

"Here, therefore, on this Friday, the 25th day of July, 1913, at the gate of Monticello, at the home of the apostle of the people's political freedom, I bury the vestments of an innocent priest."

hood—the empty emblems of ecclesiasticism—the mockeries of a royal priesthood.

Repudiates Ministry.
 "Here I renounce and repudiate the ministry of the Episcopal Church which I received from Bishop Ran-

delph—ad all digital succession—and I retain the ministry which I receive of the Lord Jesus, and which the church never gave and cannot take away.

"Here, too, I proclaim the Bible a

the sufficient rule of faith and order—as the sufficient guidebook and prayer book for every one that is born of the Spirit. And here, at the shrine of political and social freedom, I assert the religious identity of the American

people—a spiritual democracy against a religious aristocracy.

"Here I proclaim the day of the spiritual poor, and here I call upon Virginia, the mother of Presidents and the mother of Democracy to take

(Continued On Second Page.)

CANDIDATES WILL MEET AT TASEV

MILL AT TASLEI

**Pollard and Cumming to Speak
but May Not Call It Joint
Debate.**
There is a probability after all that

S. Gordon Cumming and John Garland Pollard may again meet in joint debate over the issues of the campaign for the attorney-generalship. Without knowledge of each other's plans, both men have accepted invitations to

both men have accepted invitations to speak at the Tasley Fair, in Accomac County, next Thursday. They will speak from the same platform and will take up the subject just where they left off in Lynch.

burg, answering each others' arguments without the limitation of time there imposed. If they don't want to call it a joint debate, it may go under some other name, but each candidate will speak and will be given an

The Fee System.
Mr. Cumming especially wants to elaborate his views on the fee system. He was rather worsted in the Lynchburg debate on this issue, but

has since been informed that the court clerks' association has agreed to comply with the West resolution and file with the clerk of the Senate a statement of their gross and net incomes. When time permits Mr. Cummings

wants to explain his own views on remedying the fee system without abolishing it as regards justices of the peace and smaller offices. Mr. Cumming spent last night in Richmond, and will offer a vigorous attack on the present system to-morrow.

He said:

"I regret that Mr. Pollard has seen fit to decline another joint discussion which I suggested that we have in Richmond where he claims many

friends. Such joint discussion, cer-

(Continued On Second Page.)